Share in the Cess collected in Gujarat

1331. DR. A.K. PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to answer to the Unstarred Question 709 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd July, 2002 and state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has demanded for 50 per cent share in the cess collected on the crude oil produced in the State; and

(b) if so, by when the request will be considered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The State Government of Gujarat had requested for a share of cess collected on crude oil by the Central Government. The cess is collected under the Oil Industry (Development) Act, 1974 and the proceeds of the cess are credited to the Consolidated Fund of India and the Central Government with the approval of Parliament, pays to Oil Industry Development Board, from time to time, out of such proceeds. There is no scope for sharing revenues from the income generated on account of cess on crude oil with the State Government.

Top Headed Staff of ONGC

1332. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC is having more officers than workers in its workforce;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Officers Association has demanded again salary revision and profit bonus despite falling output of ONGC;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the reaction of Government thereon; and

(f) the proposals to downsize ONGC staff strength?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) Oil and

Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has a total manpower of 39,725 as on 01.01.2003, of which 23,861 are executives and remaining 15,864 are non-executives. A sizeable number of employees have become officers because of the promotion policy of ONGC.

(c) to (e) ONGC has informed that while there is no demand of salary revision, the Association of Scientific and Technical Officers (ASTO), ONGC had represented last year to the ONGC Management about profit bonus and performance related payments. The matter, however, was resolved after discussions on 30.09.2002 between the ASTO and ONGC Management.

(f) ONGC has embarked upon an organisational restructuring exercise, titled under Corporate Rejuvenation Campaign (CRC), to address the imbalances in availability and requirement of manpower throughout the organisation.

Round-the-clock petrol pumps in Uttar Pradesh

†1333. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and places of petrol pumps proposed to be opened in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the number of petrol pumps in Uttar Pradesh which remain open 24 hours; and

(c) the number of petrol pumps in Uttar Pradesh which remain open 24 hours and are managed by women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) After the dismantling of the Administered Pricing Mechanism in petroleum sector *w.e.f.* 1.4.2002, the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies have freedom to select locations for setting up retail outlet dealership (petrol pumps) in various parts of the country, including the State of Uttar Pradesh, provided that the locations meet certain norms like commercial viability and non-encroachment of the existing retain outlet.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.